

# 2019 INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE LINE-UP *American Innovation*



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# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019



## Welcome to the Independence Day Parade

The Northville Chamber of Commerce welcomes you to one of Northville's grandest traditions, the 4th of July Parade. The parade management baton was handed off to us last year from the Northville Community Foundation and we thank them for their tremendous stewardship of this iconic event.

This year's theme is American Innovation....from agriculture to industrial to technology, revolutions have been spearheaded by great American innovations. The Northville Chamber sees innovation every day from its 400 plus chamber member businesses who choose to market their business by supporting the Chamber and all its efforts, including presenting community events that include the July 4th Parade, Farmers Market, Heritage Festival, Holiday Lighted Parade, Military Banner Program and



more. We ask that you take notice of those local businesses that support the mission and efforts of the Chamber and in turn the Northville Community. When you are shopping or looking for

services visit [Northville.org](http://Northville.org) and take a look at our Business Directory. Support those who support your community.

We could not make this event happen without the support of our sponsors, including St. Mary Mercy Hospital which has been a major supporter of this parade for years and is joined by the Masco Corp., General RV, Suburban Cadillac, Breckinridge Veterinary Clinic, Tom Holzer Ford, the Northville DDA, Consumers Energy and Orin Jewelers. Along with our sponsors, thank you to our volunteers, including Novi and Farmington CERT, and our Parade Security Coordinator, Novi Fire Department Lt. and Navy Veteran Maria Reisner.

Sit back and enjoy this wonderful Northville hometown tradition.

Jodie Humphries  
Executive Director



# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

## Northville offers small-town charm

On behalf of the offices of the Mayor of Northville, and City Council, I wish to welcome you to our July 4th parade. We are excited to have you in town to share in our long-cherished tradition that brings out the best in Northville. This year's theme is American Innovation.

Enjoy our small-town charm as you view the floats, bands, antique cars, pets and more in Northville's traditional downtown parade. Northville offers a unique small-town atmosphere in the heart of a large metropolitan area. Here, you can truly have it all.

After the parade is over, stay and visit some of our great restaurants and stores. You'll find something different and unique that appeals to everyone. Or, take a stroll through town and view our historic homes. Spend some time in town square or take a walk down to Ford Field and Mill Race Village. We have something for everyone.

We hope that you enjoy our authentic small town. As we celebrate our nation's founding, please be careful when viewing the parade. Please make sure that children keep a safe distance from parade entrants.

**Have a safe and fun filled-Fourth of July, and enjoy your visit to Northville.**

Ken Roth, Mayor  
City of Northville



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# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019



2018 Citizen of the Year Chuck Murdock and his wife, Andrea, are all smiles at the award presentation recognizing Murdock's long list of volunteer work in the Northville community.

## Honored Citizen 2018 is dedicated volunteer

As part of the 4th of July Parade this year, the Northville Chamber of Commerce is honoring the 2018 Citizen of the Year Chuck Murdock.

Murdock was honored by the chamber last fall for his outstanding community volunteerism and involvement.

During the presentation to Murdock, Northville Chamber Executive Director Jodie Humphries provided the large crowd with some background on the award and the selection of Murdock.

"Each year we honor an individual in our community who has decided that they will make a difference and that difference will change our community for the better. The truly awe-

some part of this honor is that we are never at a loss in finding a deserving selection. We have such an amazing community and there's a reason why; so many give their time, their talents and their hearts to Northville," she said.

Prior to announcing Murdock as the 2018 Citizen of the Year, Humphries introduced several past winners of the honor who were in attendance, including Jim Nield, Chris Johnson, Michelle Fecht, Mayor Ken Roth, Lauren Romeo, and the 2017 recipient, Chuck Lapham.

She described Murdock as being "as humble and low key as you can get while always in 'charitable/volunteer

stealth' mode, moving throughout our community helping and making it just that much better."

Humphries noted that all the recipients of the Citizen of the Year award have no thought of themselves or of "atta boys" while continuing their volunteer work in the community.

She listed Murdock's volunteer work with the Friends of Maybury State Park, where he serves as the board president and is also the park version of John Muir; helping conduct testing, monitoring nesting patterns, organizing events and programs within the park.



# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

## Citizen from page 3

Murdock also volunteers with the Northville District Library where he assists in the Summer Reading Program, the Battle of the Books, the used book sales and delivering books to homebound seniors.

He works with Northville Youth Assistance serving as a mentor, listening and providing an adult role model for children who need an extra adult in their lives.

He also serves on the Northville Historic District Commission, volunteers with the AARP, is a supporter of the Tipping Point Theatre, and a volunteer with the Chamber of Commerce.

He is also the president of his homeowners association, Humphries said.

"This 30-year resident of Northville and Ford engineer retiree makes our community better each and every day

and we thank him and honor Chuck Murdock as our 2018 Citizen of the Year," she said.

Murdock was born and raised in Arlington Heights, IL and earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois, a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Michigan and a second master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan, Dearborn.

He worked at Ford Motor Co. for 27 years as an engineer and program manager and he and his wife, Andrea, the parents of one daughter, have lived in Northville for 30 years.

Murdock is also an active volunteer with AARP and assists senior citizens in Northville with tax preparation. He also helps coordinate meetings, arranging speakers and luncheons for a retiree group of Ford Truck program employees.

## Citizens of the Year

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Joan Wadsworth          | 2003 |
| Jim Nield/Sonia Swigart | 2004 |
| Richard Allen           | 2005 |
| Jan Purtell             | 2006 |
| Richard Henningsen      | 2007 |
| John McGuire            | 2008 |
| Carol Poenish           | 2009 |
| David Jerome            | 2010 |
| William Demray DDS      | 2011 |
| Mark Abbo               | 2012 |
| Michele Fecht           | 2013 |
| Ken Roth                | 2014 |
| Christopher Johnson     | 2015 |
| Lauren Romeo            | 2016 |
| Chuck Lapham            | 2017 |
| Chuck Murdock           | 2018 |



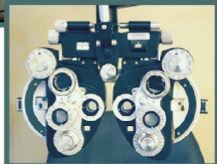
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# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

## Labor of love

### 14-year volunteer enjoys spirit and energy of parade

She doesn't ride a float, march along with the band or dress in a costume, but one of the most important people at the Northville 4th of July Parade is seen by everyone.

For 14 years, Parade Security Coordinator Maria Reisner has been seen riding along the parade route on her Segway, before and during the event, keeping the streets clear and the crowds safe. Reisner and her group of volunteers which includes 10 or 12 volunteers from the Novi and Farmington Hills CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) work to ensure that the parade entries move along smoothly at an accepted pace and that the crowds, especially excited children,

are safe.

"We are responsible for the general safety of the parade, along with the police officers," Reisner said, "Things like keeping children out of the way of the floats and making sure they do not dart out chasing candy. Just general safety precautions."

The group works, too, keeping the parade moving along without delays or backups.

"We try to keep them at the prescribed distance so there are no holdups. They can't be too far apart or too close together," she said.

The Northville parade continues to amaze Reisner even after all these years.

"There are maybe 6,000 people in Northville and we get 20,000 at this parade, triple the population. This is an important family event for the entire community," she said.

Reisner said the parade remains patriotic, not political, and offers families, especially those with young children, a chance to talk about the freedoms we have in this country that many others may not enjoy.

"If the event sparks those kinds of conversations and kids learn a little history, that's great," she said.

"While the organizers of the parade have changed during the past 14 years, the parade stays true to itself. It is a community event, tried and true and

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comfortable. There are no politics and it is not divisive or political, it is just a great event for the community.

"People might not be able to name five entries, but if one of them wasn't there, they would notice," she said. "They'd be greatly missed by the crowds," she added naming several of her favorite long-time parade entrants.

Reisner said the importance of the parade to the community is easily observed by traveling the parade route early in the morning to see the solid line-up of chairs and blankets along the route along with all the residents set up for family picnics.

"This parade is a tradition," she said, "a great one."

Reisner, a lieutenant with the Novi Fire Department and U.S. Navy veteran, said that after 14 years, she still enjoys every aspect of the Northville parade and is a frequent visitor in the community.



Parade Security Coordinator Maria Reisner rides along the parade route on her Segway, helping keep everyone safe. Photo by Sean Rhaesa

"Living a few miles away, my husband and I enjoy downtown Northville nearly every week with the festivals

and now the Farmers Market," she said, "but obviously, the parade is my favorite."

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City of Northville Police  
Northville Township Fire Department  
Northville VFW 4012  
City of Livonia-The Moving Wall Vietnam Veterans Memorial  
St. Mary Mercy Hospital  
Northville Township Supervisor Bob Nix and Trustees  
Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki  
City of Northville Mayor Ken Roth and City Council  
Senator Dayna Polehanki and Representative Matt Koleszar  
Suburban Cadillac  
Northville High School Band  
Northville High School Pompon  
Larry Lyke- 1934 Ford  
Jack Roush Jr. 1939 Ford Deluxe Convertible  
Jeff Brookmyer  
Bob Corn 1926 Model "T" Speedster  
Bob Corn 1929 Model A Roadster Pickup Truck  
Bob Walton - 1923 Ford Model T  
Hidden Spring Vet Clinic  
City of Northville Beautification Commission  
National Society Daughters of the American Revolution - Sarah Ann Cochrane  
Chapter  
First Baptist Church of Northville  
Tom Holzer Ford RED Truck/PAWS  
Eclipse Baseball  
Title Boxing Club of Northville  
Northville High School Band  
Northville Pompon  
Northville Pompon  
Northville Educational Foundation  
Miss Liberty  
Cub Scout Pack #903  
Northville Parks & Rec Tennis  
Dogtopia  
PET PARADE  
Orin Jewelers - Classic Car Sponsor  
Aaron Reavis - 1960 T-Bird Convertible



# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

## 2019 INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE LINE-UP *American Innovation*

David Hart - 1959 Red Ford Galaxy Skyliner  
 Jack Roush - 1965 Mustang Convertible  
 Ted Firth - 2010 Ford Mustang  
 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter -Day Saints  
 Tom Holzer Ford White Truck  
 Rory  
 Goldfish Swim School  
 Northville Youth Football Association  
 Cyclebar Northville  
 Riverside Rascals  
 Trader Joe's - Shopping Carts  
 St Paul Lutheran Church  
 Piazza Dance  
 Clowns of America International  
 Mile City  
 Storch Products  
 Northville City Carwash  
 Thelma Clarke Organization for Youth Advancement  
 Shawn Riley Band  
 Redford Township Unicycle Club  
 Ivywood Classical Academy  
 Bike Parade  
 Maybury Farm  
 Michigan Harness Horsemen & Northville Downs  
 Boy Scouts of America  
 OrangeTheory Fitness Northville  
 Golden Hands Massage Therapy  
 The Barn  
 ZapZone Farmington  
 Plymouth Fife & Drum Corp  
 Preservation Dental  
 Preservation Dental  
 Preservation Dental  
 Preservation Dental  
 Tom Holzer Ford Blue Truck  
 General RV  
 Northville City Fire Department





# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

## St. Mary Mercy is major parade sponsor

St. Mary Mercy Livonia is pleased to once again sponsor the Northville Independence Parade and celebrate the parade theme - American Innovation.

Since 1959, St. Mary Mercy has been committed to providing comprehensive and compassionate care to Northville and surrounding communities. The hospital has improved access to care and better serves patients with a state-of-the-art emergency department, private patient rooms and advanced medical treatments.

In particular, St. Mary Mercy has been a long-time leader in care for the older adult. The hospital is home to the first Senior Emergency Care Department in Wayne County, exclusively dedicated to meeting the needs of patients age 65 and older, along with their caregivers and family.

Earlier this year, the hospital emergency department became the first in Michigan to be awarded Level 1 Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation (GEDA) from the

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American College of Emergency Physicians. The recognition certifies that St. Mary Mercy has the policies, guidelines, procedures and staff in place to elevate care and improve clinical outcomes for the older population.

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- private rooms
- clocks with larger numbers
- hearing assistive devices and warm blankets

The Senior Emergency Room at St. Mary Mercy offers patients and caregivers access to a medical team with enhanced geriatric clinical training. This includes board-certified, specially trained physicians, nurses, pharmacists and a dedicated geriatric social worker whose role is to assess a senior's personal medical situation and help to identify and address their physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

These patients receive a review of their medication history, from which hospital pharmacists are alerted to any high-risk medications and assess medication interactions that may affect their health. Geriatric social workers also provide a needs assessment for an older adult and their family to help them maintain independence and, if necessary, develop an alternative care plan.





# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019



Upon discharge or transfer, Senior Emergency Room staff communicate across the hospital and the care continuum so that senior care is coordinated accurately and in a timely manner. This includes consults with personal primary care physicians about treatment options and care plans.

An added level of service available at St. Mary Mercy includes support through an outpatient Senior Wellness Center, which offers comprehensive

assessments from nurse practitioners, social workers and physical therapists. Together, this clinical team offers seniors and caregivers recommendations for care and a list of local resources available to them. These recommendations may address special needs, such as transportation concerns, medication assistance, financial hardship, or access to medical equipment.

More than 52,000 patients are treated annually in the 24-hour Emergency

Department at St. Mary Mercy. The range of advanced medical emergency services available to seniors in the community include angioplasty, chest pain evaluation, stroke care, on-site diagnostic imaging, electronic medical record technology and a fast track process for minor injuries and illnesses.

For more information about St. Mary Mercy Livonia, visit [stmarymercy.org](http://stmarymercy.org).





# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

## Big winner

### Parade supporter Connie Holzer honored by Ford, city, state

When those shiny pick-up trucks pass by during the Northville 4th of July Parade, one of the spectators cheering the loudest is Connie Holzer who each year donates the use of the vehicles and staffing to the parade.

Holzer, the owner of Tom Holzer Ford, was recently honored by Ford Motor Co., Ford Motor Credit Corp., The City of Farmington Hills and the State of Michigan as one of the best performing dealerships in the country. Friends, co-workers, customers and dignitaries crowded the showroom recently week to help celebrate the honors, two of which came as a surprise to Holzer. While she was expecting the Ford awards, the city honor and state certificate took her by surprise—which isn't an easy feat, her staff members confirmed.

Holzer has been at the helm of the dealership since the death of her husband in 2006. His death after 51 years of marriage came just as the economic recession was looming and car sales plummeting. Holzer was faced with some significant challenges and very difficult decisions. She had worked in the business as she was able, having six children before the age of 24, and had seen firsthand the demanding schedule a successful dealership requires of an owner.

"After Tom's death, I came to the dealership and my son, Buzzy, who was the general manager, told me that if I was going to sell the business, I needed to have a meeting with the staff and tell them that myself. Nobody else was going to do it," she said during the award presentations last month. She said she went home and thought about the situation, made sure she could mortgage her home to help fund the business and went back to talk to the employees.



Connie Holzer shows off a few of the awards presented to her by Ford Motor, Ford Motor Credit, the City of Farmington Hills and the State of Michigan.

"I told them if you believe in me, we'll make it together," she said. "If not, we'll go broke together. This dealership, the awards, this is the product of them. This team of mine, they do it, not me," she said. "I have the best team in the country."

Holzer said she was overwhelmed with the presentation of the most prestigious and coveted awards Ford presents. Tom Holzer Ford is the fifth

largest dealership in Metro Detroit, and the 12th largest in the country and is one of the top 100 volume sales producers in the country, Ford officials said.

"The top 100 dealerships delivered top volume," said Mike Murphy, regional manager with Ford Motor Co. who presented one of the several awards to Holzer. "They are good-but great ones perform magic and magic



# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

happens here at Tom Holzer Ford every single day, not only on the sales floor, but in the body shop, in the service department and in every department. Magic is delivered.”

In 45 years, the business has grown from the small site on Grand River where Tom Holzer opened his first dealership, to the large, modern, redesigned space at 10 Mile and Haggerty, dedicated to customer service. The dealership sold a total of 4,660 vehicles in 2018.

Holzer was presented with the 2018 Partners in Quality award from Ford Motor Credit, the most prestigious honor the company presents. Holzer was also named as the Top Volume Dealer by Ford Motor Co. and was presented with the Ford Motor Credit Top 100 Dealer honor. She was taken by surprise with an official state tribute from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer along with an official proclamation from the



city of Farmington Hills presented by Mayor Kenneth Massey commemorating her 45 years of business in the community.

“You never know if you’re going to succeed,” Holzer said. “Everywhere I look I see the people who make my job so great. These are the people I love and who support me. This is my home

and I thank each and every one of my staff from the bottom of my heart.

“I will never feel like this again in my life,” she said.

In addition to her contributions to Northville, Holzer has also been a major supporter of the YMCA for more than 30 years along with her many other community efforts.

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# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

## Right in step

### Parade joins long list of Chamber-organized city events

This year, the Northville 4th of July Parade is again being organized by the Northville Chamber of Commerce which took up the reins from the Northville Community Foundation which had been sponsoring the event for more than a decade.

"It seemed a natural progression for us," noted Jody Humphries, the executive director of the Northville Chamber of Commerce.

"We really are a hybrid organization. We represent our 400 plus business members from Northville and the surrounding communities and we also do event management of nearly all the city events and act as a visitors bureau," she said.

A few things will change with the parade this year, but it will remain the event nearly 20,000 people crowd the Northville streets to watch every year.

"We have changed and streamlined the judging format," Humphries said.

This year all judging will take place prior to the parade and will include only Judges' Choice in the Community Group and business categories along with the best in the Parade Theme category.

"To be judged, they have to be in line and ready at 9 a.m.," Humphries said, when this year Northville Mayor Ken Roth and Chamber of Commerce board representative Sarah Thompson will make the selections. "We are going to drive them around on a golf cart to make their selections," Humphries said, "and then the winners will have a sign to display as they go down the parade route so everyone along the parade route can applaud their efforts."

The judging will rotate annually between the mayor of the City of Northville and the supervisor in Plymouth Township along with a chamber board member.

Humphries said the one change and disappointment this year was the lack of a flyover from the nearby military bases.

"They are unable to perform the flyover as they are all deployed," she said.

Humphries said the Northville Chamber of Commerce is a "unique blend" as they organize most of the events in the city along with their efforts based on 53 years of experience in serving the needs of the retail, manufacturing and service sectors of the Northville community.

The chamber has served the community for nearly 55 years, first organized in 1964. The chamber continues to explore and implement new programs, while also maintaining the traditional tools and programs that work in concert to support and promote the local business community. Annually, the chamber sponsors a number of events





# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE 2019

that draw tens of thousands to the community, including the Holiday Lighted Parade and Hometown Holidays Greens Market, Chill-E Cookoff, Flower Sale, Grub Crawl, and local Farmers' Market among several others.

Additionally, the Chamber also gathers and distributes local demographic information, including lists of organizations, clubs, schools, healthcare providers, restaurants and events.

The Chamber website, [www.northville.org](http://www.northville.org), is also another tool used to promote the local businesses. The site receives thousands of hits every month, providing information on topics ranging from how to join the chamber to information on each of its special events. Upcoming events include the Friday Night Summer Concerts in Northville Town Square featuring the Detroit Social Club at 7 p.m. July 12; Theo Gridiron on July 19; Gia Warner on Aug. 9; the Shawn Riley



Band on Aug. 16; Steve King and the Dittilies on Aug 23 and Social Bones on Aug. 30.

The chamber is also sponsoring the Northville Grub Crawl beginning at 6 p.m. on Tuesday July 23.

More information about chamber activities and membership is available by phoning (248) 349-8609 or visiting the Northville Chamber of Commerce website.



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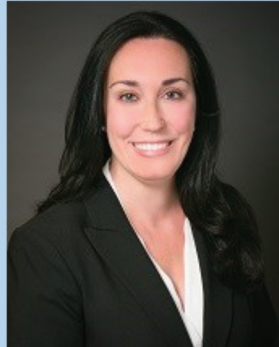
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